

SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY IN
HONG KONG

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, a recent Washington Post article outlined Hong Kong Gov. Chris Patten's steadfast determination and commitment to democracy in Hong Kong. In the wake of the 1989 Tiananmen Massacre, in October, 1992, newly arrived Governor Patten unveiled proposals to expand the voting franchise in Hong Kong and broaden the scope of democracy. Governor Patten's proposals reflected a growing desire on the part of the colonial government and the people of Hong Kong to erect safeguards against the totalitarian mainland—Communist China. I commended Governor Patten then, as I do today. Governor Patten's reforms are consistent with general U.S. goals of promoting human rights and political freedom.

Mr. Speaker, last month Hong Kong voters demonstrated their devotion to democracy by repudiating most legislative candidates allied with Beijing and handing an overwhelming victory to advocates of democracy, led by Martin Lee, who avows to take a tougher stance in dealing with the mainland. This vote reinforced Hong Kong voters' commitment to Governor Patten's proposals. Britain's Minister for Hong Kong Jeremy Hanley commented that "more voters than ever before have played their part in an atmosphere of calm moderation to elect the most broadly-based, fairly elected Legislative Council in Hong Kong's history. As a result, the people of Hong Kong will have a fully represented legislature, equipped to help shape the next chapter in Hong Kong's history."

But how will this next chapter read when China has vowed to dismantle the Hong Kong legislature and continues to try to destroy any hope of a free democratic future? Despite international pressure, China continues to violate the human rights of its own citizens. As the date for the return of Hong Kong fast approaches, there are signs that Beijing's policy of intimidation and fear may be working. According to recent polls, public support for Governor Patten is at an all time low. Former British Ambassador to Beijing, Percy Cradock, said that Patten "is being rapidly marginalized as the Chinese and British Governments work together to reduce the damage his reforms have done." On the contrary, Governor Patten has done tremendous good in the last 3 years, and he deserves steadfast support from the United States and the rest of the world community, including Britain. Any damage resulting from Hong Kong's making democratic reforms has been caused by Beijing's refusal to accept them and London's fear of supporting them.

Hong Kong is the world's best example of the prosperity that results from a strong and vibrant free enterprise system existing under the rule of law. As 1997 approaches the United States must stand with those in Hong Kong, like Governor Patten and Martin Lee, who are rightly unwilling to capitulate to Beijing's effort to strip the citizens of Hong Kong of their democratic rights and freedom.

SENSE OF HOUSE RELATING TO
DEPLOYMENT OF ARMED
FORCES IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 1995

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, after three and a half years of bloody conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina, long anticipated peace negotiations will begin today at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, OH. I applaud the efforts of President Clinton, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, and the participating leaders from Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia, for these negotiations may be the last best chance for peace in this war torn part of our world.

It is unfortunate that Congress tarnished the optimistic spirit of this summit on Monday by considering H. Res. 247. Mr. Speaker, this resolution was a deliberate partisan attempt to undermine the President and call into question his credibility on matters relating to foreign affairs. With hardly an hour's debate and no hearings, on the eve of this historic conference, Congress has already tied one hand behind the President's back, and jeopardized the success of these talks.

I was the only member in the Tennessee delegation to vote against this resolution, which we only learned would be considered last Friday. Taking into account the short notice before voting on this legislation, lack of intelligent debate and investigation, and the premature timing for such an edict from Congress, I felt clearly this was not the right message to send to our President and the Balkan negotiators.

This vote was not the last vote regarding United States policy for deploying Armed Forces in Bosnia. Whatever proposals or agreements result from the Dayton peace talks, which involve the lives of U.S. servicemen, they will have to pass before the judgment of this body. This is inherent in our beloved Constitution. However, I pray this blatant, political attempt to embarrass the President, has not imperiled a peaceful resolution to this grisly conflict.

THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM
PARTNERSHIP ACT

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Travel and Tourism, I have introduced legislation today to strengthen our tourism promotion efforts in the international travel market.

Earlier this week, the White House conference endorsed a new plan to bring together the resources of the private sector and the resources of the Government in a public-private partnership to improve the promotion of international travel and tourism to the United States. This partnership would be a successor to the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration.

The partnership concept has been developed jointly by a group of industry leaders and officials of the Commerce Department.

A group of us has been working for weeks to prepare this legislation. We took the first step on September 28 when I held a hearing in my Trade Subcommittee. We used that hearing to focus congressional attention on the problems we are having in the international travel market.

Let me review the findings from our hearing. International tourism is now a \$300 billion market. The world market has tripled in the last 10 years and it will double again in the next decade. But our market share is dropping. Two years ago, the United States had 19 percent of the international tourism market.

In 1993, nearly 48 million visitors came to the United States and spent \$74 billion while in our country. In the past 2 years, the total world market has grown 10 percent, but our share dropped to less than 17 percent.

This year, we will have 2 million fewer visitors from abroad than 2 years ago. This drop has cost us 177,000 jobs which should have gone to American workers. But those jobs went to our competitors in other countries.

What's worse, this is not a temporary trend. If we stand still in our promotion efforts, our share of the world market will keep dropping. In 5 years, we will have less than 14 percent of the world travel market.

The question is: How can we turn this around? The White House conference has urged a stronger promotion effort in the overseas market. This is where we are falling down. The United States ranks 33d in tourism promotion, lower than Tunisia and Malaysia. We are being outclassed and outgunned. But, how do we get a stronger promotion program in a time of decreasing Federal spending?

The answer is the public-private partnership, which my legislation would set up. The idea is to combine together the resources and creative talents of the American tourism industry with the overseas presence and data-bases of the U.S. Government.

First, we would set up a national tourism board. This board would be comprised of industry leaders, State and regional tourism directors, and Federal officials. The board would devise a comprehensive strategy to increase our share of the world market. The board would advise the President, Congress, and the industry itself on specific steps to take.

To coordinate a new promotion campaign, we would set up a nonprofit corporation—the national tourism organization. This organization would be directed by the private sector. We would combine the advertising talents of the private sector with market data and staff help from the Federal Government. The new organization would design tourism promotion advertisements aimed at the international market and it would carry out a new and more vigorous advertising campaign. The campaign would be coordinated with the advertising that the industry already does on its own.

Initially, this new organization will get operational help from both the industry and the U.S. Government. But one of the first jobs for the tourism board will be to devise a long-term plan for financing this operation.

When this plan is up and running, we would have a two-fold campaign: First, to attract more international visitors to the United States, and second to steer them toward American companies for every part of their trip.

Finally, my legislation would direct all of our overseas missions to make tourism promotion a priority. It would require our overseas posts to cooperate with the national tourism organization in attracting more international visitors.

This is a new concept. We are breaking new ground. The U.S. Government is not used to working with private industry in a coordinated way on a promotional campaign. The leadership of the travel and tourism industry has convinced me that this can be done.

My goal is to enact this bill into law by this time next year. This year, we will have 44 million international visitors to the United States with this partnership in place, our goal should be to increase that total to 100 million over the next 10 years.

THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1995

(By Congressman Toby Roth, Chairman, Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade Chairman, Travel and Tourism Congressional Caucus)

FACT SHEET

Implements a central recommendation of the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism.

Forms a "public-private partnership" between the travel/tourism industry and the federal government to strengthen the promotion of international travel to the U.S.

Establishes a 36-member National Tourism Board (75% private sector) to advise the President and Congress on policies to improve the competitiveness of the U.S. travel and tourism industry in global markets, appointed by the President with the advice of the travel and tourism industry.

Establishes a National Tourism Organization as a not-for-profit corporation under federal charter to implement the tourism promotion strategy developed by the National Tourism Board; to develop and operate a marketing plan in partnership with U.S. travel and tourism firms to increase the U.S. market share of the world travel market; governed by a 45-member board of directors, reflecting the breadth of the travel and tourism industry; board of directors develops a plan for long-term financing; interim funding from industry; and data and staff resources provided by federal government.

Requires federal agencies and U.S. overseas missions to cooperate in implementing promotion strategy developed by National Tourism Board.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN BILBRA TALMAGE, JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize John Bilbra Talmage for his life's work and achievements. John was born in Aniston, AL, and moved to New York City in 1961. He was formerly the administrator in the school of engineering, at Columbia University. Additionally, he has been an aide to Abe Gerges, and Councilman Ken Fisher.

Mr. Talmage is the founder and first chairman of the Columbia University Federal Credit Union. He has also served on the Metrotech Business Improvement District Board of Directors. Mr. Talmage has served on other prestigious community boards dealing with issues of health, religious affairs, and waste storage.

John is a tireless and eager servant. His work and enthusiasm are infectious. It is my honor and pleasure to highlight this gentleman's contributions.

HONORING RAOUL WALLENBERG

HON. DAN SCHAEFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, in April of last year, the House voted unanimously for a resolution providing for the placement of a bust of Raoul Wallenberg in the U.S. Capitol. Raoul Wallenberg was a young Swedish diplomat who risked his own life in rescuing many tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews during World War II. Through great acts of personal bravery, Wallenberg saved many would-be victims of the Nazi exterminators by providing Swedish protective passports to thousands of Jews he had never met. He pulled some out of death trains and others from the ranks of death marches.

In one notable incident, Wallenberg, a slightly built 32-year-old, boldly threatened a Nazi general preparing to bomb to the ground a Jewish ghetto. Through this intervention alone, some 70,000 Jews were saved from death. He demonstrated how a strong character and unwavering determination could force even the brutal Nazi occupiers to spare some of the Hungarian Jews who had been marked for death.

Wallenberg's implacable hostility toward oppression made him a target of Soviet military officials, who arrested him early in 1945. After his arrest, he disappeared into a Soviet gulag prison camp, never to emerge again. Though the Soviets claimed in 1957 that he had died in 1947 of a heart attack, reliable eyewitnesses report sightings of Wallenberg long after that year. To this day, no one outside of Russia knows what truly happened to Wallenberg, whether he is still alive, or when he may have died.

Today, Mr. Speaker, in the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol, a stirring ceremony was held to unveil the bust of Raoul Wallenberg and to honor his enormous contribution to humanity. You were among those who paid tribute to his great works, along with many other distinguished persons such as House International Relations Committee Chairman GILMAN, Mr. PORTER, the cochair of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, and Senator DASCHLE. Others who spoke included Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Miles Lerman, chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, and the speakers of the Parliaments of Hungary, Israel, and Sweden.

I would now like to recognize three individuals who played especially important roles in making today's ceremony in honor of Raoul Wallenberg possible. My colleague from California, TOM LANTOS and his wife, Annette, survivors of the Holocaust themselves, have worked tirelessly for years to bring the Wallenberg case to public attention. Their hard work and determination to human rights, and especially to the Wallenberg case, serves as an example to me and my colleagues in the House.

Finally, I want to recognize Lillian Hoffman of Denver, CO, who purchased and donated

the bronze bust of Raoul Wallenberg. Lillian has spent more than two decades herself on the Wallenberg case and has demonstrated tireless devotion to the cause of human rights wherever they are violated. As the chair of the Colorado Committee of Concern for Soviet Jewry, she has helped numerous people herself who were persecuted in Russia and the Soviet Union because of their religious beliefs. She helped them to obtain exit visas so they could start new lives in Israel and the United States. It has been a pleasure knowing and working with Lillian for so many years.

I salute Lillian Hoffman for her generosity in donating the bust of Raoul Wallenberg to the people of the United States. Lillian's generosity will help ensure that Raoul Wallenberg's great deeds of humanity will be remembered by many generations of people to come. Thank you, Lillian Hoffman, for helping us to remember Raoul Wallenberg.

HONORING EDWARD A. PALLADINO

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Edward A. Palladino. Ed's life recalls a life that was more common in the past, in the "olden days". He spent most of his entire career in one place, at one of my local newspapers, the Kingston Freeman, working his way up from right out of high school to becoming managing editor.

Ed is a pillar of our community in ways that still mean something to people. More than a local legend for his coverage of sporting events of all levels in our area, Ed is a genuine sportsman himself, embodying the principles of hard work, fairness, and real passion on and off the playing field. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating 40-plus years of excellence and the life of my great friend, Ed Palladino.

A TRIBUTE TO ART JOHNSON

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 1995

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a few minutes to tell you about a man who has spent his life working as a healer but he is not a medical doctor. He has not repaired any broken bones or mended any human hearts. But he has devoted his life to healing the bitter and gaping rifts that separate the races in our county.

The man I am describing is Dr. Arthur Johnson, my longtime friend in the struggle for justice, who retired September 30, 1995, as vice president for university relations and professor of education sociology at Detroit's Wayne State University, which just happens to be my alma mater.

His title and his long list of degrees and commendations might lead some to believe he concentrated his civil rights work in the academic arena. That was not the case. His activism, which has spanned six decades, has